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4/1/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Merkulov et al.

Art Unit: 1652

Serial No.: 10/003, 320

Examiner: Y. Pak

Filed: December 6, 2001

Atty. Docket: CL001186-DIV

For: ISOLATED HUMAN LIPASE PROTEINS,
NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING
HUMAN LIPASE PROTEINS, AND USES
THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to a restriction requirement from Examiner Pak mailed on March 7, 2003 in which a restriction requirement was issued for the above referenced application.

By way of response, Applicants hereby elect claim group I, claims 1-2 and 20-21, directed to polypeptides, for examination and have canceled claims corresponding to the non-elected groups II-X.

In the Specification

At page 1, after the Title of the Invention, please add the following:

-- Related Applications

A1
The present application is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/801,052, filed on March 29, 2001 and issued on April 9, 2002 as U.S. Patent No. 6,387,680. --

In the Claims: